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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, April 15, 2013, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 2013

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WESTMORELAND).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 12, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LYNN A. WESTMORELAND to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: God of the universe, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Under Your divine providence, this Nation was established and has been guided through the years. Through turmoil, strife, disaster, and even war, You have brought Your people to renewed faith, greater strength, and a deeper longing for peace.

Be with us now. Guide and enable the Members of this people's House today as they consider the ongoing business of the Nation, be they issues of economy, immigration, domestic safety and security, or matters beyond our shores. Bless their efforts as they seek to protect and defend their fellow citizens.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. MCNERNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCNERNEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now entertain up to five re-

quests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

THE FEAR OF APRIL 15TH

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it's that time of year again—April 15. You know what they say: the only things certain in life are death and more taxes.

The day April 15th brings fear and trepidation into the hearts and souls of Americans across the fruited plain. The taxacrats have created a language that Americans really can't understand.

When the Tax Code was created, it was about 400 pages. Today, it's over 70,000 pages long. And get this: each year it takes Americans 6 billion hours to prepare their income tax, and American taxpayers spend \$168 billion just to file their taxes every year.

Just this week, President Obama unveiled his 2-month-late budget that includes, of course, \$1.2 trillion in new taxes. Mr. Speaker, almost half of Americans pay no Federal income tax at all. What we need are more taxpayers, not more taxes.

We should eliminate the burdensome, unfair income Tax Code and go to the fair tax—the national sales tax concept—or the flat tax, because everyone should pay their fair share to live in America.

And that's just the way it is.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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